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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics

Extension Service Circular 342

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A STUDY OF A GROUP OF 2,453

FORMER 4-H CLUB MEMBERS in 11 STATES

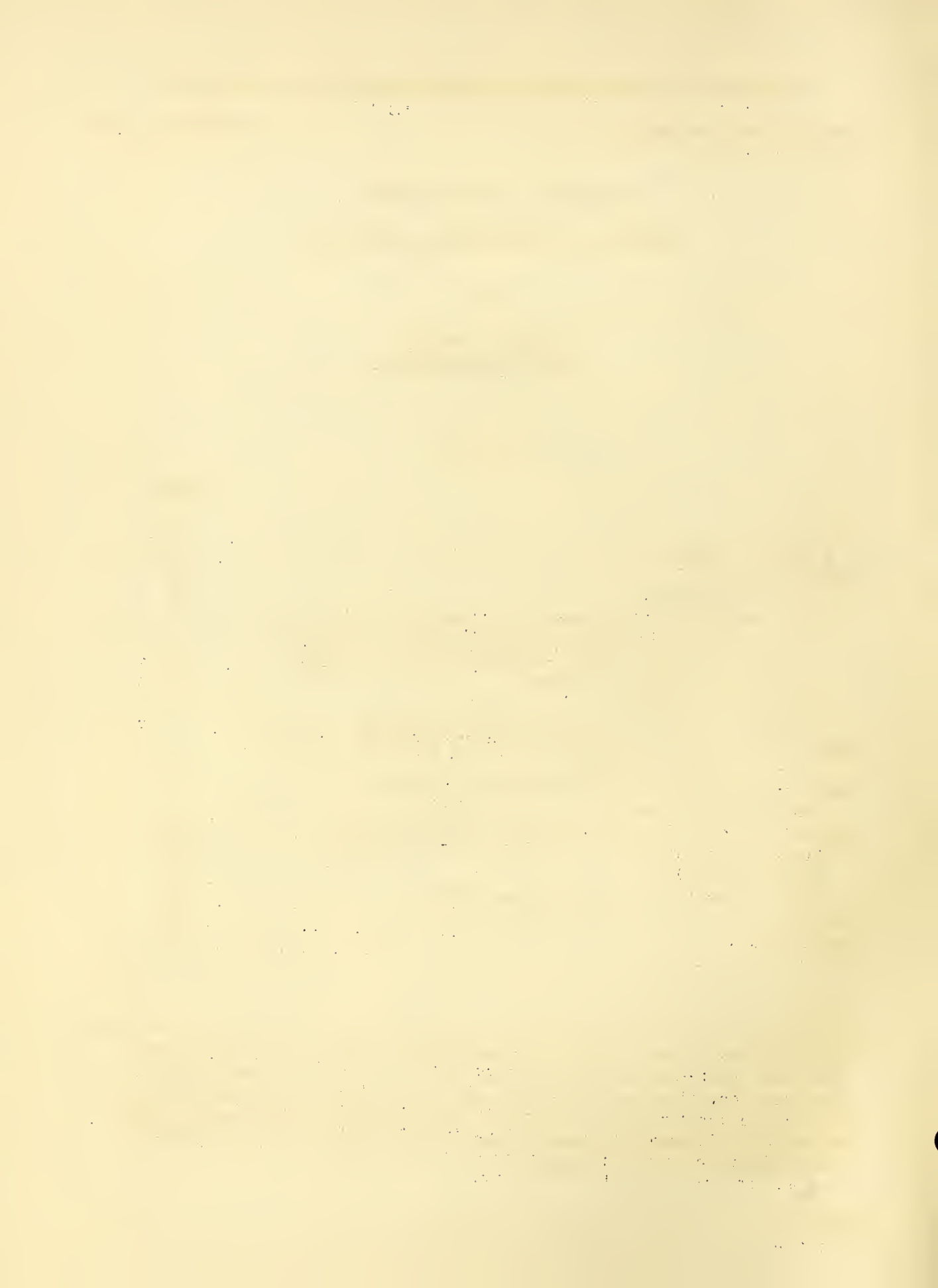
By

Erwin H. Shinn
Senior Agriculturist

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DISTRIBUTION:--A copy of this circular has been sent to each extension director, State and assistant State leader in county agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H Club work; county club agent and assistant county club agent; State and assistant State leader and county agent in Negro club work; extension editor; agricultural-college library; and experiment-station library.



FORMER 4-H CLUB MEMBERS IN 11 STATES

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INTRODUCTION

As the junior phase of the Federal and State extension system, 4-H Club work offers many opportunities for rural young people to develop potential leadership by active participation in the solution of current problems affecting the social and economic welfare of the farm family. Such problems are not superficial or abstract. They are real problems, and as a part of the 4-H Club program they are dealt with as they exist in their natural setting in actual life situations.

The problems that form a basis of the 4-H Club program are selected therefore in accordance with actual and timely farm, home, and community needs and in line with the interest and ability of the individual Club member. As a basic requirement for membership, each club member agrees to conduct a demonstration or project on the farm or in the home under the general direction of the county extension agent, the aim being to show how to improve practices in farming or homemaking.

The objectives of 4-H Club work are projected on a broad plane of procedure. Some of these broader objectives out of which the 4-H Club program selects goals for attainment are in the realm of: (1) Economic production, conservation, and consumption, (2) health, (3) recreation, including games and plays, (4) the social aspect of farm living, (5) development of proper attitudes toward cooperative movements, (6) appreciation of the beauties of nature and desires to beautify the farm home, (7) civic responsibility including efficient leadership and citizenship, and (8) the stimulation of desires for continued learning. In addition 4-H Club members by means of exploratory experiences and other contacts learn a great many things in the field of educational and vocational guidance which provide a knowledge of opportunities in agriculture and homemaking vocations.

From an educational approach perhaps the most significant aspect of 4-H Club work is the manner in which the learning situation is utilized. The philosophy of 4-H Club work is: (1) Learn by action and not merely by absorption, (2) learn by doing rather than by talking or thinking about doing, (3) learn to think by thinking, (4) learn to live by living, (5) learn to do socially desirable things, (6) do things at the time they need to be done, (7) arrange for the doing to be accompanied by insight and understanding, (8) freedom of choice in doing what one is interested in doing, (9) learn how to meet disappointments and discouragements in attaining ambitions in life, and (10) learn how to achieve ambitions through the exercise of initiative, good judgment, and perseverance.

Purpose of Study

4-H Club work has been operating on a Nation-wide basis for a quarter of a century. During this period the work has experienced a phenomenal growth, expanding from an enrollment of 116,262 in 1914 to a total enrollment of 1,381,595 in 1939. During this period of 25 years, approximately 8 million farm youth have been members of 4-H Clubs.

As would be expected, the degree that any individual or group of so large a number would be influenced as the result of 4-H Club training would vary considerably, depending upon the interest and ability of individual club members and the quality of leadership under which they are guided.

This study was undertaken to determine what has happened to a group of former 4-H Club members who were in club work in the period 1920-26 and what they think of their 4-H training. A total of 2,453 records were obtained from the following 11 States: Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Vermont.^{/1} The names were chosen from a list of several hundred former 4-H Club members furnished by the county extension agents, and records were taken from those who could be located. Some records were obtained in each State from former club members who had moved out of the county or State. The records obtained are believed to represent a fair sampling of those who were in 4-H Club work during the period 1920-26. Caution was used in selecting those from whom to obtain records in order that the sampling might be representative of all classes of club members including the outstanding, the good, the average, and below the average.

The study was conducted by means of personal interviews with individuals. The main topics studied were: (1) General information with reference to whether the person was married, or single, if reared on a farm owned or rented, present occupations, and if farming now as owner, tenant, or farm hand, (2) the 4-H Club record, including farm and home demonstrations or projects carried, offices held or honors attained, amount of schooling attained, kind of courses taken in school or college, (3) positions filled or occupations followed since school or college, (4) enumerator's rating of the standing of each individual in his or her occupation, (5) organization with which the person is now connected, offices held and leadership being taken in different organizations, (6) present connection with adult extension work and with 4-H Club work, and (7) evaluations which each person would place on certain factors as to whether he or she did or did not derive benefits from 4-H Club work along certain lines such as: (a) Stimulation to go to school, (b) helped to earn funds for school use, (c) increased knowledge of agriculture or home economics, (d) learned how to improve practices in farming or homemaking, and the like.

^{/1} The author wishes to express appreciation to the State 4-H Club leaders and the county extension agents for the services they rendered in collecting these data.

RECORDS OBTAINED

General Information

Individual records were obtained from 1,166 men and 1,287 women. The average age of the men was 27 years and of the women 26.8 years; 60 percent of the men as compared to 65.4 percent of the women were married. A larger percentage of the men married club members than did the women. By far the larger percentage of men and women were reared on farms owned than on farms rented. Over twice as many women as men were reared in villages, which may account for the fact that a considerably higher percentage of men married 4-H Club members than did women. Table 1.

Table 1. - General information

Item	Men	Women
Number in survey.....	1,166	1,287
Average age.....	27.0	26.8
Percentage:		
Married.....	60.1	65.4
Marrying club member.....	34.8	25.3
Reared on farm owned.....	83.2	68.8
Reared on farm rented.....	7.7	12.0
Reared in country but not on farm.....	1.4	2.2
Reared in village.....	6.0	14.2

Women Former 4-H Club Members Who Married Farmers

Table 2 shows by States, the number of records received from women; the highest being 173 in South Carolina and the lowest 38 in Minnesota. However, Minnesota shows the highest percentage of former 4-H Club women who married farmers 72.2 percent; New York has the lowest percentage of club women who married farmers 24.6 percent; Oregon next lowest 27.4 percent who married farmers. Table 2.

4-H Club Record, Including Demonstrations or Projects Carried, Offices Held, or Other Honors Attained

With reference to projects or demonstrations carried, livestock is highest, showing 50 percent for men and 13.8 percent for women. Sewing showed a percentage of 34.8 for women, crops, 33.6 percent for men. The women reported 33.6 percent for foods, and garden showed 8.1 percent for women and 6.9 percent for men.

Women surpassed men in the percentage of offices held in the club with 35.8 percent, and 27.1 percent for the men. Men exceeded women by a small margin in awards won - 49.6 percent; 48.5 percent for the women.

The average years in club work for men was 3.8 years, and for the women, 3.6 years. The average project or demonstration carried by men was 1.9 and by women 2.2. Table 3.

Table 2.—Marital situations regarding women who were former 4-H Club members.







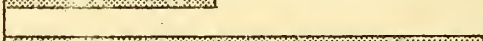
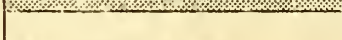
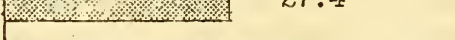


State	Records obtained from women	Women married	Women who married farmers	Percentage of women who married farmers				
				0	20	40	60	80
Kentucky.....	73	45	21	 43.7				
Louisiana.....	121	77	31	 40.2				
Minnesota.....	38	18	13	 72.1				
Nebraska.....	169	122	52	 42.6				
New Mexico.....	133	88	32	 36.4				
New York.....	133	73	18	 24.6				
Oklahoma.....	53	42	24	 57.1				
Oregon.....	142	95	26	 27.4				
South Carolina.	173	118	48	 40.7				
Tennessee.....	123	89	36	 40.4				
Vermont.....	129	75	27	 36.0				

Table 3. - 4-H Club record, projects, and other activities

Item	Percentage	
	Men	Women
Farm or home demonstrations or projects carried:		
Livestock.....	50.0	13.8
Crops.....	33.6	-
Sewing.....	-	34.8
Foods.....	-	33.6
Garden.....	6.9	8.1
Home improvement.....	-	4.2
Home economics.....	1.3	-
Miscellaneous.....	8.2	5.5
Holding office in club.....	27.1	35.8
Winning awards.....	49.6	48.5
Average years in club work.....	3.8	3.6
Average projects carried.....	1.9	2.2

Educational Training Received

If 4-H Club work is to function in the educational growth of farm youth, participation in various phases of the club program should provide stimulations for further learning both in school and out. According to data to be found further in this study, it seems obvious that club work does stimulate desires to continue educational training, although in the selection of a group of former 4-H Club members from whom to obtain records the procedure followed was to make a random selection of every fourth or fifth name on the list furnished, to avoid getting a select group. The average years in club work by those participating in this study was about 3.7 as is shown in table 3, whereas the average years for the whole country during the period of this study (1933-39) was 2.2 years. In light of this difference, it is possible that the educational training attained by the group studied may be somewhat higher than the average for the entire country, but there are no facts in this study to substantiate this point.

These data show almost twice as many men as women reporting elementary school only, the average years being about equal. The percentage of men who reported high school but no college was 4 percent higher than of women, but the "average years" was about the same. With regard to college training, 24.7 percent of the men as against 28.6 percent of the women reported college attendance, with an average of a little more than 2 years for each group. Agriculture in high school was reported by 32.1 percent of the men as compared to home economics in high school reported by 42.4 of the women. The men reported twice as high a percentage of graduate work in college as the women. Table 4.

Table 4. - Educational training received

Item	Percentage reporting		Average years	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Elementary school only.....	14.3	7.4	7.9	7.8
High school but no college.....	59.9	55.6	3.3	3.5
College.....	24.7	28.6	2.2	2.7
Agriculture in high school.....	32.1	-	2.2	-
Home economics in high school.....	-	42.4	-	2.2
Agriculture in college.....	9.1	-	2.9	-
Home economics in college.....	-	9.7	-	2.4
Graduate work.....	3.6	1.9	1.3	1.0
Business college.....	6.3	13.8	.50	.58
Time spent at short courses.....	15.4	13.8	.08	.08
Age left school.....	-	-	18.6	18.5
Years since school or college.....	-	-	8.3	8.3
Years in present position.....	-	-	5.5	6.0
Years in different occupations.....	-	-	2.0	1.8

Present Occupations

The fact is obvious that not all farm youth will be able to find employment in the open country or to pursue a vocation of farming. It has always been true and from all appearances must continue that many rural youth must migrate to the city either by choice or otherwise to find employment. A considerable number will in all probability prefer to leave the country and seek employment or follow a profession.

These data show that 55.5 percent of the men who were former 4-H Club members are now engaged in farming, 34.2 percent were farming as owners, 37.1 percent as tenants, 10.7 percent as farm hands, 13 percent in other capacity, and 5 percent did not specify.

In contrast 61.2 percent of the women were homemakers. Almost twice as high a percentage of women as men were professional workers, about the same percentage were clerks and kindred workers. Men engaged as skilled workers represented 6 percent; women practically nothing. Only 0.8 percent of the men were not gainfully employed as compared with 5.2 percent of the women. Table 5.

Table 5. - Present occupations

Occupation	Percentage engaged in:	
	Men	Women
Farming.....	55.5	0.2
Farming as:		
Owner.....	34.2	50.0
Tenant.....	37.1	50.0
Farm hand.....	10.7	-
Other capacity.....	13.0	-
Not specified.....	5.0	-
Homemaker.....	-	61.2
Professional workers.....	11.1	21.8
Proprietors, managers, and officials.	8.1	2.0
Clerks and kindred workers.....	12.0	12.7
Skilled workers.....	6.0	0.2
Semiskilled workers.....	10.1	3.6
Unskilled workers.....	5.2	4.0
Not gainfully employed.....	0.8	5.2
Part-time occupations.....	8.7	10.9

Occupations Followed Since School or College

The percentage of men engaged in farming at one time or another since school or college is considerably larger than the percentage engaged in farming at the time this study was made, the percentage of the former being 62.8 as compared with 55.5 percent of the latter. The percentage farming as owner at present was 34.2 as compared with 24.1 farming as owner since school or college. The percentage farming as tenants at present is also larger than the percentage farming as tenants

since school or college, the former being 37.1 as compared with 27.6 of the latter. The "present occupations" group is included, of course, in the occupations followed since school.

The percentage engaged in homemaking at present was 61.2 as compared with 55.1 during the entire period so engaged since school or college. This difference is doubtless affected considerably by the fact that most of the latter group were not of marriageable age immediately after completing school or college.

The percentage of professional workers in occupations followed since school or college for both men and women is considerably higher than the percentage of professional workers at present as is shown in tables 5 and 6.

There was about twice as high a percentage reported for both men and women in the clerks' and kindred workers' class for occupations followed since school or college as in the present occupations class. The present occupations are included (see page 7) in the occupations followed since school.

There were fewer men and more women not gainfully employed at present than in the group listed as occupations followed since school or college.

There were smaller percentages in the part-time occupations at present than in the occupations followed since school or college. Table 6.

Table 6. - Occupations followed since school or college

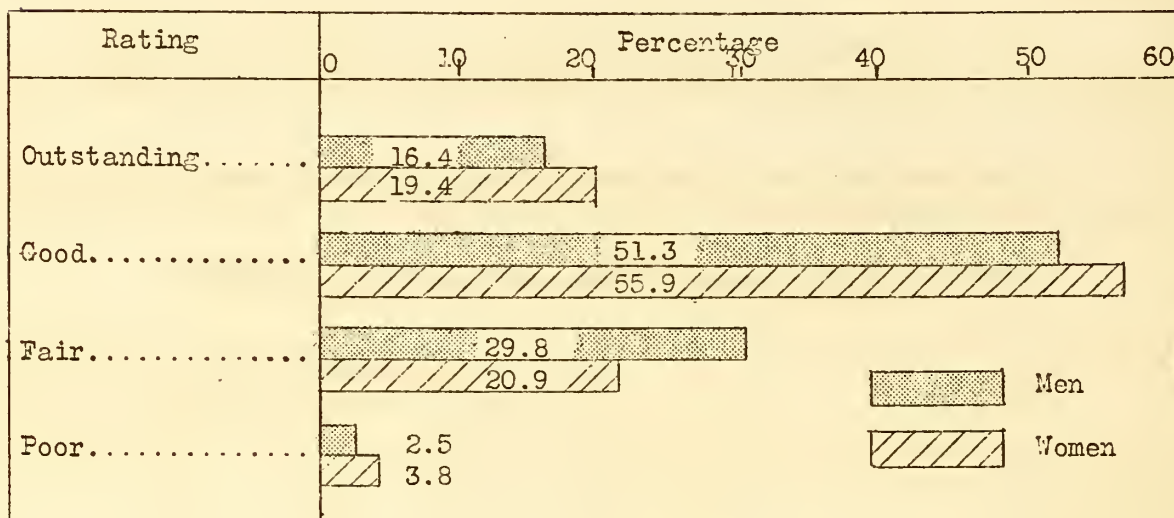
Occupation	Percentage engaged in:	
	Men	Women
Farming.....	62.8	0.1
Farming as:		
Owner.....	24.1	-
Tenant.....	27.6	0.1
Farm hand.....	17.6	-
Other capacity.....	31.7	-
Not specified.....	15.4	-
Homemaker.....	-	55.1
Professional workers.....	16.0	34.0
Proprietors, managers, and officials	11.7	2.2
Clerks and kindred workers.....	25.5	23.4
Skilled workers.....	8.6	0.2
Semiskilled workers.....	15.4	6.4
Unskilled workers.....	14.8	11.0
Not gainfully employed.....	2.3	3.3
Part-time occupations.....	13.0	13.8

ENUMERATOR'S RATING OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S STANDING IN HIS OR HER PRESENT OCCUPATION

To obtain an evaluation on each person from whom a record was obtained, the enumerator was asked to give his or her opinion by checking "outstanding," "good," "fair," or "poor" according to how it seemed the former club member would rate in his or her present line of work. For example, if a homemaker, she would be rated outstanding, good, fair, or poor. The same procedure would be followed in rating a farmer, a carpenter, a merchant, or other individuals.

Of the total number, 16.4 percent of the men and 19.4 percent of the women were rated as outstanding, 51.3 percent of the men and 55.9 percent of the women as good, 29.8 percent of the men and 20.9 percent of the women as fair, and 2.5 percent of the men and 3.8 percent of the women were rated as poor. Table 7.

Table 7. - Enumerator's rating of the individual's standing
in his or her present occupation



PRESENT CONNECTION WITH EXTENSION WORK AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

One of the chief objectives of 4-H Club work is to stimulate and develop potential leadership abilities of farm youth. It has been said repeatedly that one of the greatest needs in rural life at present is a larger number of competent local leaders to help carry out phases of programs that have been formulated for improvement of rural life.

Although this study makes no attempt to evaluate the effectiveness of the services former 4-H Club members are rendering in their respective communities, it does, however, attempt to show the extent of contact and participation this group has with extension work and other local organizations.

For the purpose of showing contrasts, the data on this particular phase of the study are tabulated by States.

As regards present connections of this group of former 4-H Club members with agricultural extension work, wide variations are noted. Oregon stands highest with 47.4 percent and South Carolina is lowest with 8.5 percent.

With respect to the extent the men were connected with 4-H Club work, Oregon is also highest with 14.4 percent; South Carolina, lowest with 1.2 percent.

As to present connections the women of the group had with home economics extension work, the variations are practically the same as with men. Nebraska is highest with 40.2 percent; New York, lowest with 8.3 percent. With respect to the extent the women were connected with girls' 4-H Club work, Tennessee was highest with 17.9 percent, and South Carolina lowest with 3.5 percent. These data offer no explanation as to the reasons why these variations exist. It seems obvious, however, that the extent of these connections with both adult extension work and with 4-H Club work is considerably below what might be expected in several States.

With regard to membership in local organizations of men, South Carolina was highest with 85.4 percent, and New Mexico lowest with 52.4 percent. South Carolina was also highest in the percentage of women who were members of local organizations with 94.8 percent, followed closely by Oklahoma with 94.3 percent. New Mexico was lowest in the percentage of women members of local organizations with 61.6 percent.

With regard to offices held and leadership being taken by men, Oklahoma was highest with 35.1 percent, and New Mexico lowest with 9.7 percent. Oklahoma also ranked highest in the percentage of women holding office and exercising leadership, 52 percent; New Mexico lowest with 12.8 percent. This situation in New Mexico is perhaps affected to some extent by the relatively heavy Spanish-American population.

Table 8. - Present connection with extension work and other local organizations

State	Present connection with:				Percentage Any connection with ext. work		Member of local organizations		Offices held and leadership taken	
	Agr. ext.	H. E. ext.	4-H Club work		Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
			Men	Women						
Kentucky.....	16.3	19.2	9.6	12.3	23.1	28.8	80.8	86.3	21.4	39.7
Louisiana.....	13.1	19.8	13.1	15.7	20.6	32.2	80.6	90.1	16.2	30.6
Minnesota.....	28.2	18.4	11.3	15.8	38.0	28.9	78.9	86.8	23.2	33.3
Nebraska.....	31.1	40.2	6.8	7.9	22.7	35.5	67.3	75.1	28.4	32.3
New Mexico.....	32.0	18.8	5.8	4.5	35.9	21.0	52.4	61.6	9.7	12.8
New York.....	13.4	8.3	9.6	11.3	19.7	16.5	82.8	77.4	21.6	35.3
Oklahoma.....	24.3	26.0	2.7	16.0	17.5	37.7	64.9	94.3	35.1	52.0
Oregon.....	47.4	14.8	14.4	13.4	50.5	26.0	71.1	76.8	20.6	26.8
South Carolina.....	8.5	23.1	1.2	3.5	9.8	24.8	85.4	94.8	15.8	28.3
Tennessee.....	24.8	11.4	11.2	17.9	31.2	25.2	74.4	91.0	17.6	39.0
Vermont.....	25.0	14.7	8.0	13.2	30.0	25.6	63.0	76.7	17.0	23.2
Total.....	21.7	18.6	8.8	10.6	26.8	26.8	73.7	81.7	24.1	35.1

EVALUATIONS GIVEN BY 2,453 FORMER 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

Broadly interpreted, education consists of changing the attitudes, ideals, and behavior of human beings. It is believed that 4-H Club work is definitely educational work because it is based on the philosophy that every unit of learning should be learning by doing something worth while. The course of action pursued in 4-H Club work is what to do and how best to do it, thus embodying not only selecting the problem but devising a method for its solution.

Achievement is the test of the value of educational training. It is behavior that solves problems and meets needs. There are, however, many intangible elements in a program of education which are difficult to measure or evaluate. Sometimes the criteria for evaluating must be left to the personal opinion of the individual person involved.

In order to obtain points of view as to what this group of former 4-H Club members thought they derived from their training and experience in the work, a series of questions was asked them and they were asked to give their answers either in the affirmative or the negative according to their own judgment. Nine of these questions are classified as educational values, nine as economic values, and nine as health, social, and recreational values.

Educational Values

Grouped under educational values those interviewed were asked if club work did or did not influence them along the following lines: (1) Stimulated desires to learn, (2) Helped to choose a life work, (3) learned opportunities in agriculture as a vocation, (4) increased knowledge of agriculture or of home economics, (5) learned how to improve farm or home practices, (6) learned games and plays, (7) learned to speak before groups, (8) learned to preside at meetings, and (9) learned about the State agricultural college and its function.

From the chart that follows, it is obvious that positive values exceed the negative values in every instance except two, and exceed by far in most of them. The two items that stand highest in percentage of positive values are "increased knowledge of agriculture or of home economics" and "learned how to improve farm or home practices." It is remarkable how much value 4-H Club training appeared to have had in stimulating desires to learn or for further knowledge. The negative values exceed the positive values with respect to guidance in choosing a life work for both men and women. The negative value given by women on learned opportunities in agriculture as a vocation also exceeded the positive by a small percentage. Chart 1.

Economic Values

There were nine questions that could properly be grouped under economic values. Each individual interviewed gave a positive or a negative answer to these statements: (1) Helped to earn funds to go to school, (2) helped to acquire property, (3) helped to start savings,

Chart 1. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26

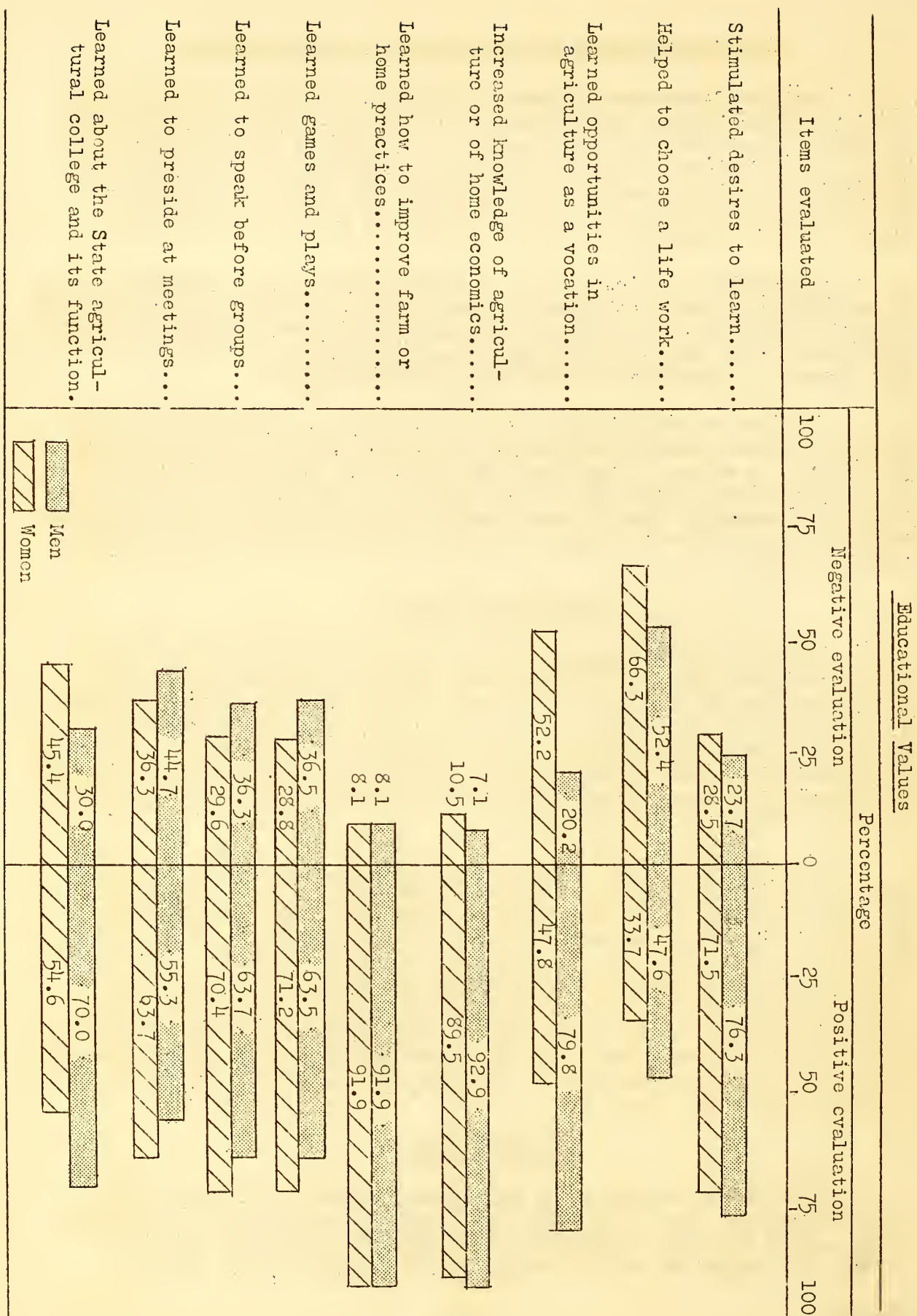
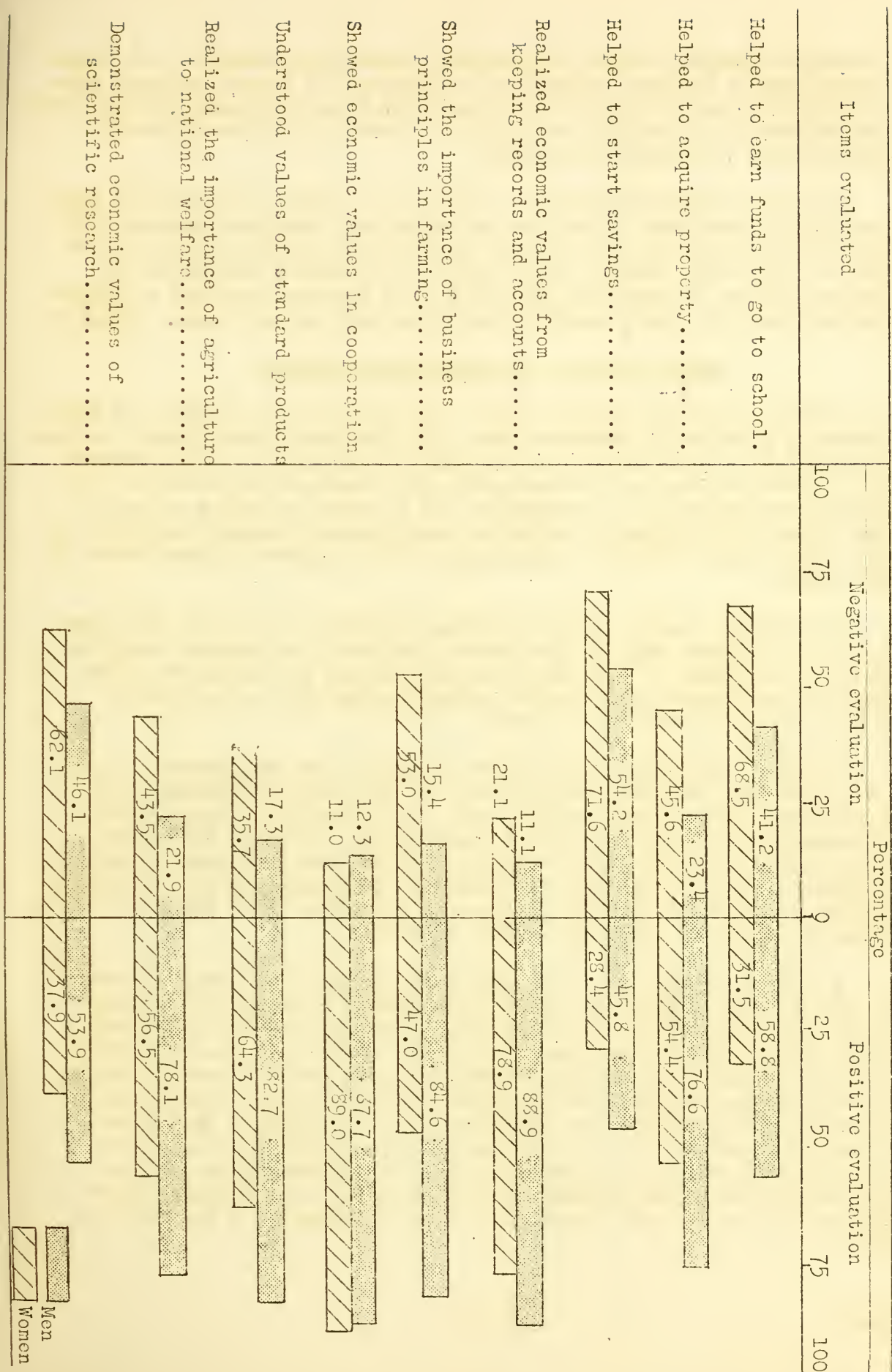


Chart 2. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26

Economic Values



(4) realized economic values from keeping records and accounts, (5) showed the importance of business principles in farming, (6) showed economic values in cooperation, (7) understood values of standard products, (8) realized the importance of agriculture to national welfare and (9) demonstrated economic values of scientific research.

It will be noted from chart 2 that the two items that have the highest positive evaluations by both men and women are "realized economic values from keeping records and accounts" and "showed economic values in cooperation." The item ranking third highest in positive evaluation was "understood values of standard products." The item with respect to starting savings has the lowest positive value for both men and women. Chart 2.

Health, Social, and Recreational Values

Under the heading Health, Social, and Recreational Values, the items evaluated as positive or negative were: (1) Developed better health habits, (2) stimulated interest in home and community improvements, (3) increased social activity at home and in community, (4) broadened acquaintance, (5) stimulated participation in recreation, (6) provided direction in use of leisure time, (7) developed a spirit of sportsmanship through contests, (8) helped to make farm life more enjoyable, and (9) increased appreciation of country life.

The health, social, and recreational aspects of 4-H Club work command quite a definite part of the present program. The results shown in chart 3 give evidence to this fact even though less attention was given perhaps to these phases of the club program during the years 1920-26, when this group were 4-H Club members.

The item which was rated highest as a positive evaluation by both men and women was "broadened acquaintance." The next high-ranking positive value was "helped to make farm life more enjoyable." All the items stand comparatively high in positive evaluations. If these evaluations were given today, the positive evaluations would doubtless stand considerably higher in view of the fact that the 4-H Club programs of the present have made considerable progress in the past decade or so by placing greater emphasis on activities in these fields. Chart 3.

A different approach to an evaluation of the items found in charts 1, 2, and 3 is to compare the values as expressed by those of the group who had only 1 year of 4-H Club work with those who had 2 or more years in which the same items were used. In charts 4, 5, and 6 the percentage of positive values of the 2-year or more group in every instance exceeded by a large margin the positive values of the 1-year group. The margin of differences would indicate, as would obviously be expected, that those who remain longest in 4-H Club work derive the greatest values from it. The one distinct value to be derived from this information is that extension agents and local leaders can see the values club members derive from remaining in 4-H work longer than 1 year wherever this is possible. Chart 4.

Chart 3. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26
Health, Social, and Recreational Values

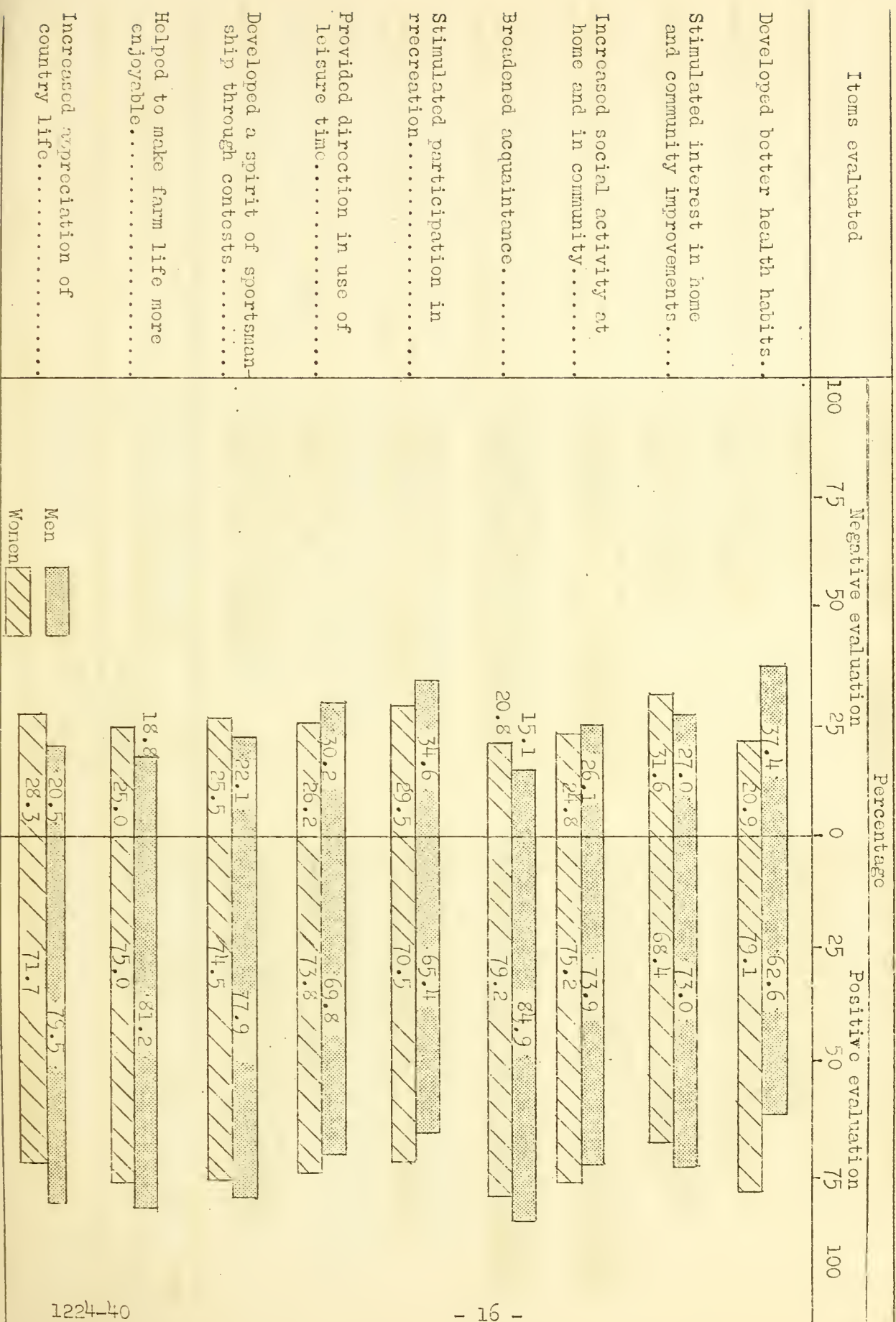


Chart 4. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26

Educational Values

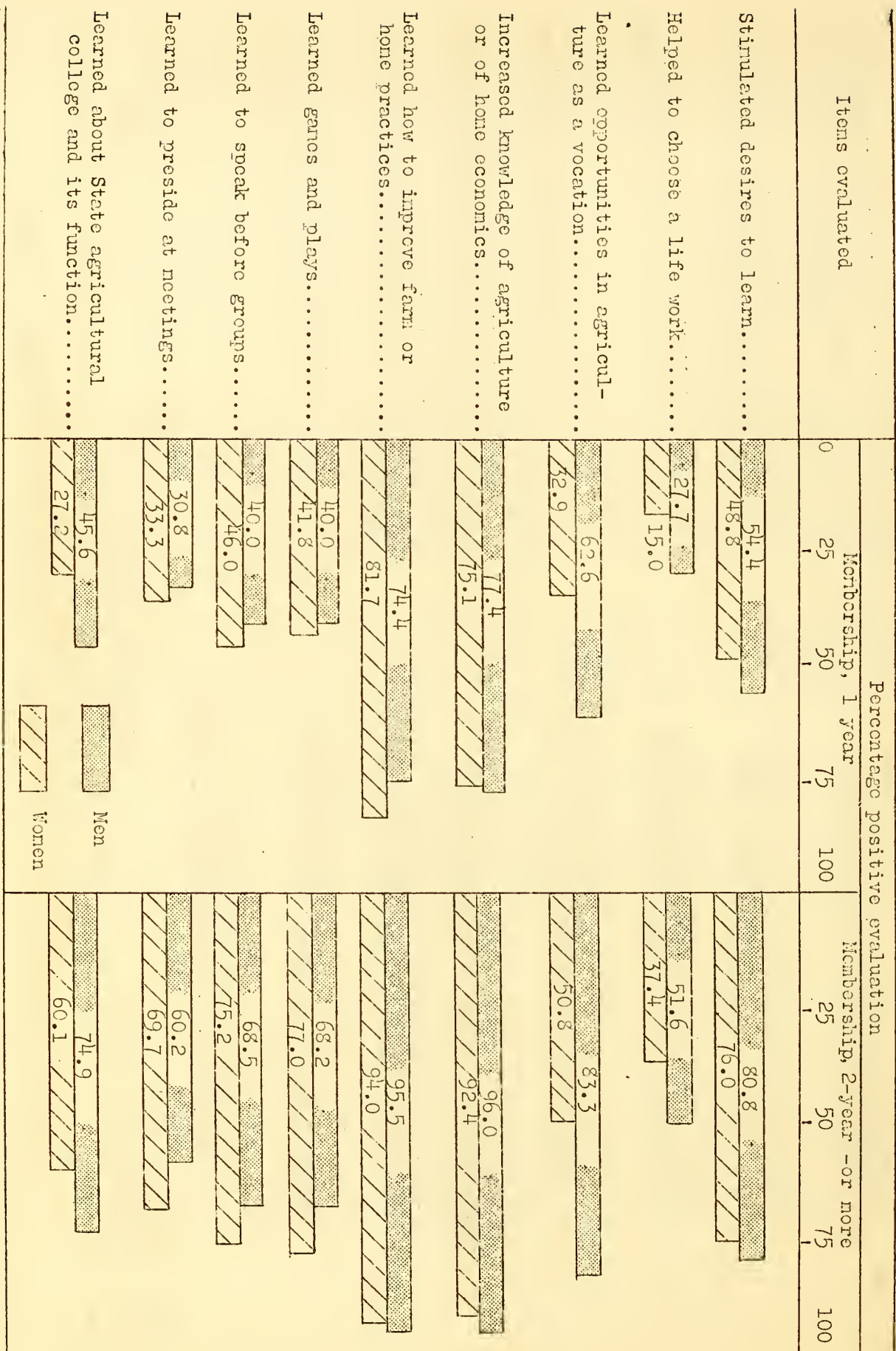


Chart 5. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26
Economic Values

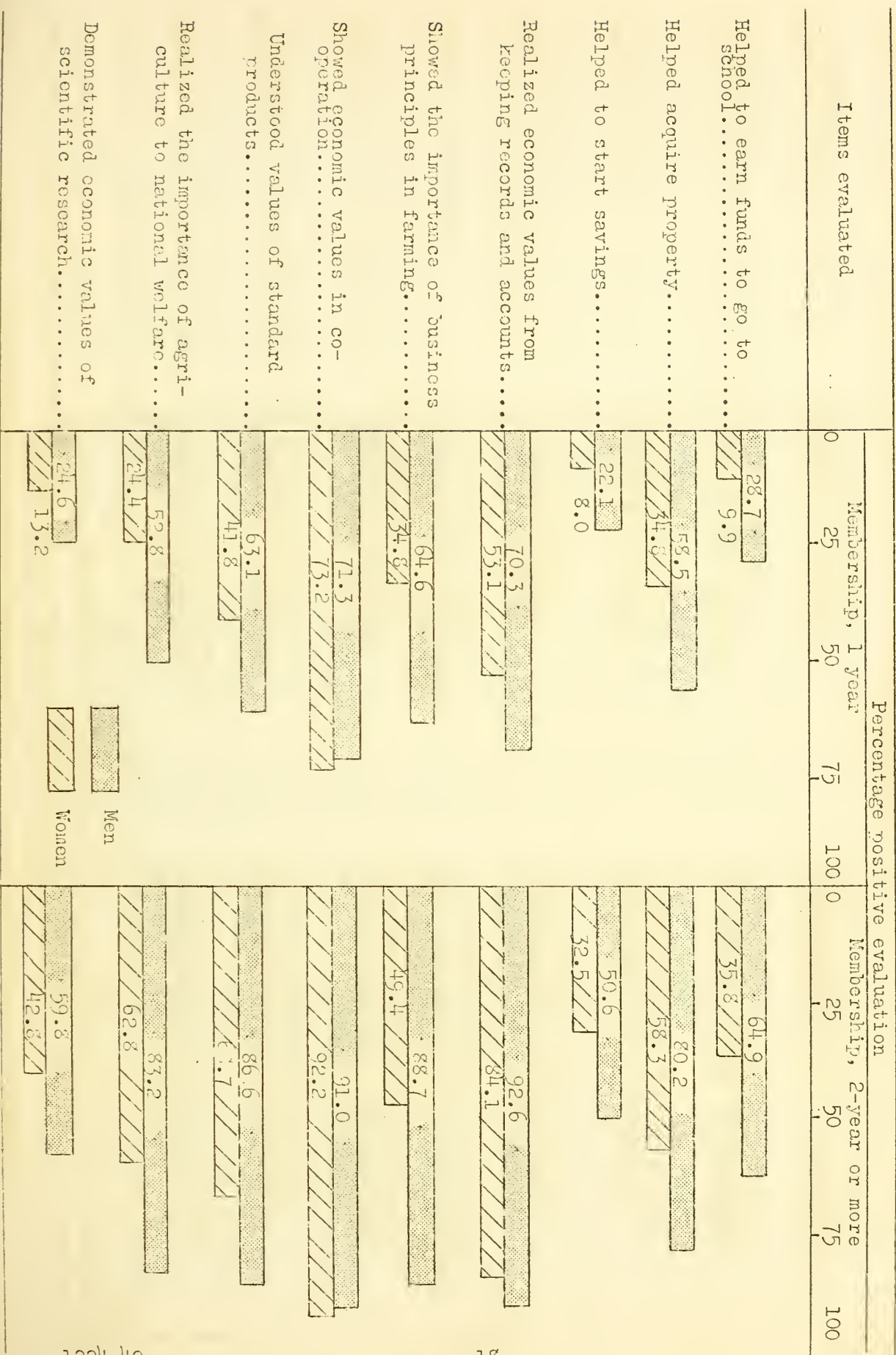
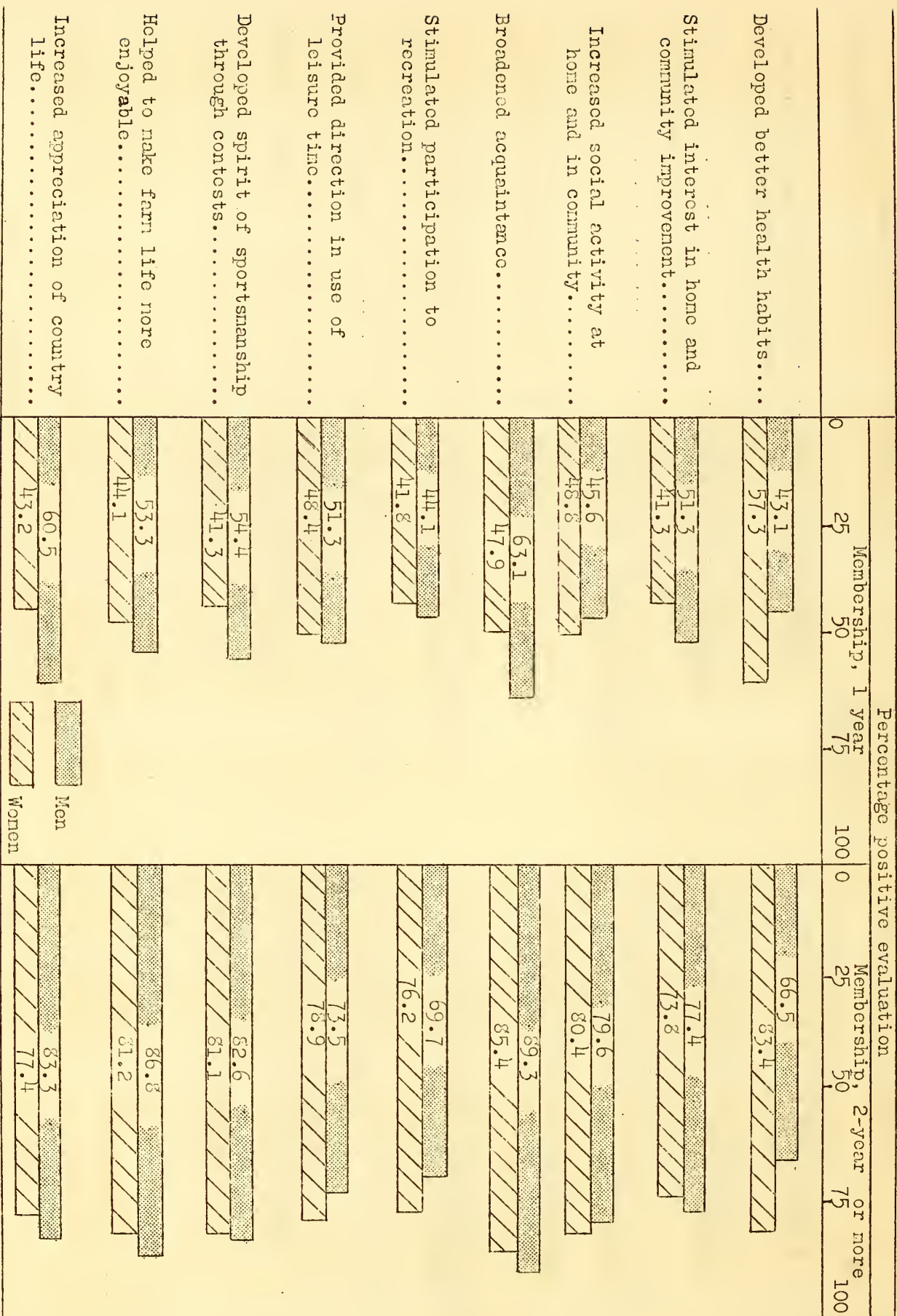


Chart 6. - Evaluations given by 2,453 persons who were 4-H Club members in 1920-26



A similar situation prevails when the items of chart 2 are rated in positive values by the 1-year group and by the group with 2 years or more of club work. In each of the nine items evaluated, the percentage of positive values estimated by the 2 years or more membership exceeds the 1-year group. In three instances, the values estimated by the former group exceed the estimates by the latter by more than two to one. Here again is the challenge to local extension agents and local leaders to keep club members in the work for more than 1 year if possible. Chart 5.

With respect to the positive evaluation of the 1-year group and the 2 years or more membership group, the latter exceeds the former by a margin of about one-third, showing conclusively that the longer membership accounts for more favorable comment as to what the members thought they derived from the training. Chart 6.

The data found in charts 4, 5, and 6 show beyond any doubt the more favorable opinion held by those who had the longer period of training in 4-H Club work. The advantage gained by the longer training period was obvious to anyone who had the opportunity to ask the individual what he thought of the training he received.

SUMMARY

Of the 2,453 former 4-H Club members included in this study, 1,166 were men and 1,287 were women, 60.1 percent of the men as compared with 65.4 percent of the women were married. Of those married, 34.8 percent of the men as compared with 25.3 percent of the women married club members. Reared on farms owned were 83.2 percent of the men and 68.8 percent of the women.

Minnesota showed the largest percentage of women who married farmers - 72.2; Oklahoma ranked second highest with 57.1; Kentucky, third with 46.7; New York, lowest with 24.6.

With respect to projects carried, livestock was highest with 50 percent of men; 13.8 percent of women. The next ranking project was sewing, with 34.8 percent. Crops and foods projects ranked equal, showing for crops 33.6 percent of the men and for foods 33.6 percent of the women.

Holding office in the club were 27.1 percent of the men as compared with 35.8 percent of the women. Both men and women showed awards won by a margin of less than 50 percent. Both men and women averaged a little over 3.5 years in club work.

With respect to the amount of educational training attained, 14.3 percent of the men as compared with 7.4 percent of the women reported elementary school only, with average years being slightly less than 8 years for each group. Reporting high school but no college were 59.9 percent of the men as compared with 55.5 percent of the women. Reporting college training were 24.7 percent of the men with an average of 2.2 years as compared with 28.6 percent of the women with an average of 2.7 years. Studying agriculture in high school were 32.1 percent of the men as compared with 42.4 percent of the women who had home economics in high school.

Of the men, 9.1 percent studied agriculture in college as compared with 9.7 percent of the women who studied home economics in college. Both men and women left school at an average age of about 18.5 years.

As regards present occupations, 55.5 percent of the men were farmers and 61.2 percent of the women were homemakers. Men farmers were divided as follows: 34.2 percent owners, 37.1 percent tenants, 10.7 percent farm hands, 13 percent other capacity, and 5 percent not specified.

Professional workers involved 11.1 percent of the men and 21.8 percent of the women.

Less than 1 percent of the men as compared with 5.2 percent of the women were not gainfully employed when the survey was made.

Concerning occupations followed since school or college, 62.8 percent had farmed. Of this percentage, 24.1 percent had farmed as owners, 27.6 percent as tenants, and 17.3 percent as farm hands. Of the women, 55.1 percent were homemakers. Working in professions since school or college were 16 percent of the men and 34 percent of the women. Not gainfully employed since school or college were 2.3 percent of the men and 3.3 percent of the women.

In ratings given those participating in the study, a higher percentage of women than men were rated as outstanding, having a rating of 19.4 percent as compared with 16.4 percent for men. Rated as good were 51.3 percent of the men as compared with 55.9 percent of the women. A little over 2 percent of the men were rated as poor as compared with slightly less than 4 percent of the women.

In their connection with extension work and other local organizations, there is a wide variation when States are compared. Oregon showed the highest percentage connected with agricultural extension with 47.4 percent, followed next by New Mexico with 32 percent. South Carolina reported 8.5 percent connected with agricultural extension, the lowest percentage of the 11 States; Louisiana and New York reported approximately 13 percent. All three of these States were considerably below the average, which was 21.7 percent.

Nebraska reported 40.2 percent connected with home economics extension work, which was considerably higher than any of the other States. Oklahoma ranked second, with 26 percent connected with home economics extension, and New York was lowest with 8.3 percent. The average percentage connected with home economics extension at present was 18.6.

As regards present connections of men with 4-H Club work, Oregon was highest with 14.4 percent, followed next by Louisiana with 13.1 percent; South Carolina ranked lowest with 1.2 percent. The average percentage connected at present with 4-H Club work was 8.8.

Women seemed to be more active in club work than men. Tennessee showed the highest percentage of women connected with 4-H Club work with

17.9 percent. Oklahoma was second with 13 percent, and South Carolina lowest with 3.5 percent. The average for the 11 States was 10.6 percent.

With regard to any connection with extension work by men, Oregon ranked above the other States with 50.5 percent, followed next by Minnesota with 38 percent, and South Carolina ranked lowest with 9.8 percent. The average percentage of any connection with extension work by men was 26.8.

As regards any connection with extension work by women, Oklahoma was highest with 37.7 percent, Nebraska followed next with 35.5 percent, and New York ranked lowest with 16.5 percent. The average percentage of any connection with extension by women was the same as the average for men, which was 26.8.

With regard to membership in local organizations, the women exceeded the men by several points. South Carolina had the highest percentage of men members of local organizations with 35.4 percent. New Mexico was lowest with 52.4 percent. South Carolina also showed the highest percentage of women in local organizations with 94.8 percent. New Mexico was lowest with about 61.6 percent. The average percentage of men in local organizations was 73.7; of women, 81.7.

A higher percentage of women than men appear to hold offices in clubs. Oklahoma stood at the top for both men and women, 35.1 percent for the men and 52 percent for the women. New Mexico was lowest for both men and women on this item. The average percentage reported by men as holding office in local organizations was 24.1, and by women the average was 35.1.

With respect to broader values attained through 4-H Club training and experience these data were classified under three headings: (1) Educational values, (2) economic values, and (3) health, social, and recreational values. From all three of these divisions it is obvious that the positive evaluations given by the group surveyed far exceed the negative values. In some instances the positive values exceed the negative values by a ratio of 10 to 1 with an average of more than 2 to 1 in all three divisions.

In the last three charts containing the same classifications with identical content where comparisons are made between positive evaluations of those with 1 year of club work and those with 2 or more years, the results are equally interesting and informing.

CONCLUSION

The one significant conclusion that can be drawn from this study is the fact that 4-H Club work has much to offer its membership. While 1 year of 4-H Club work is worth while, it appears evident that those who remain in the work for only 1 year derive far less value than the group with a longer tenure.

This study therefore reveals clearly the far-reaching values to be derived from the long tenure in 4-H Club work. It is obvious that these values reside in the realm of a well-formulated and executed 4-H Club program directed by State club leaders and county extension agents under the sponsorship of competent local leaders.

If the greatest values therefore are to be derived from 4-H Club training and experience the challenge to those responsible for the formulation and execution of the 4-H Club program is to exert the greatest effort to secure reenrollment for as many years after the first as it is possible.

A Study of a Group of 2,453 Former 4-H Club Members in 11 States

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